

CLAIMS

1. A speech decoder which generates excited signals from coded speech signals inputted in units of frames and generates decoded speech signals from the excited signals, said speech decoder comprising:
- emphasis processing means for performing an emphasis process on said excited signals;
 - error detecting means for detecting frame errors in said coded speech signals;
 - counting means for counting a number of times said frame errors occurred in succession and outputting the successive error frame number; and
 - emphasis process prohibiting means for prohibiting said emphasis process due to said emphasis processing means when said successive error frame number exceeds a predetermined reference error frame number.
15. A speech decoder which generates excited signals from coded speech signals inputted in units of frames and generates decoded speech signals from these excited signals, said speech decoder comprising:
- emphasis processing means for performing an emphasis process on said excited signals, capable of controlling the amount of emphasis of said emphasis process;
 - error detecting means for detecting frame errors in said coded speech signals;
 - counting means for counting a number of times said frame errors occurred in succession and outputting the successive error frame number; and
 - emphasis amount control means for controlling the amount of emphasis of said emphasis processing means in accordance with said successive error frame number.
25. 3. A speech decoder according to claim 2, wherein:
said emphasis processing means comprises a plurality of emphasis processing portions with different emphasis amounts, and selecting means for selecting an emphasis processing

portion for performing the emphasis process on said excited signals from among said plurality of emphasis processing portions; and

 said emphasis amount control means controls the selection of the emphasis processing portion by said selecting means in accordance with said successive error frame number.

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4. A speech decoder according to claim 3, wherein

 said emphasis processing means comprises a bypass for outputting coded speech signals absolutely without performing the emphasis processes of said plurality of emphasis processing portions;

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 said selecting means is capable of selecting said bypass as well as said plurality of emphasis processing portions; and

 said emphasis amount control means controls said selecting means so as to output said coded speech signals through the bypass of said emphasis processing means when said successive error frame number exceeds a predetermined value.

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5. A speech decoder according to claim 3, wherein:

 said emphasis process selecting means controls the amount of emphasis of said emphasis processing means so as to reduce said emphasis amount when said successive frame error number is large.

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6. A speech decoder according to claim 3, wherein:

 said emphasis processing means is a filter for performing a filtering process on said excited signals; and

 said emphasis amount control means controls the gain of the filtering process of said filter depending on said successive error frame number.

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7. A speech decoding method for generating excited signals from coded speech signals inputted in units of frames and generating decoded speech signals from these excited signals,

the method comprising a process for counting a number of successive frames of received coded speech signals having coding errors; and prohibiting emphasis processing with respect to said coded speech signals when the number exceeds a predetermined reference error frame number.

- 5 8. A speech decoding method for generating excited signals from coded speech signals inputted in units of frames and generating decoded speech signals from these excited signals, the method comprising a process for counting a number of successive frames of received coded speech signals having coding errors; and controlling an amount of emphasis of the emphasis process on said coded speech signals in accordance with this number.

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